

Town Meeting Coordinating Committee

Meeting of Tuesday, October 26, 2010

Town Hall, 2nd floor meeting room

Attendance: Nonny Burack, Adrienne Terrizzi, Rob Crowner, Peggy Roberts, Mary Streeter, Harry Brooks; absent: Carol Gray.

1. Call to order: Peggy calls the meeting to order at 3:45pm.

2. Report on electronic voting: Rob presents a one-page draft interim report on electronic voting and states that he is working on an expanded version that might run four or five pages. Adrienne suggests distributing the shorter version as a handout at Town Meeting and posting the longer version on the town website. Mary advocates for printing the longer version because some people will not be able to access the website and in case the digital version gets lost in a future website overhaul. She notes that the report of the survey results has not even been formally distributed to Town Meeting, only having been announced as available at the town website to those on the discussion and notification listservs.

The committee discusses when it might be ready to vote on a recommendation about electronic voting, aware that JCPC will likely expect one if the FY12 capital budget contains a request for electronic voting equipment. The question of what additional information or committee research is necessary in order to make an informed vote is raised but not resolved, some members desiring firmer cost estimates but others cautioning against making a recommendation dependent on a number.

The committee agrees that its report should simply describe the current status of its research. Rob will expand the draft to two pages to include a summary of the survey results and more detail about costs of voting methods and time spent voting.

3. Preparations for Town Meeting: n/a.

4. New business: Adrienne proposes reducing the amount of information included in the minutes to just summaries of discussion, motions made, and actions taken, concerned that too much detail may leave individual committee members vulnerable. However, Peggy states that the committee's practice of approving longer minutes has allowed new members to get up to speed more readily through review of past minutes, and Mary states that longer minutes promote transparency.

Following discussion, the committee votes 5-1 (Rob opposed) to approve the minutes of the October 19 meeting of Subcommittee #1 and 6-0 to approve the minutes of the October 19 meeting of the full committee.

5. Adjournment: The meeting is adjourned at 4:59pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Rob Crowner

Documents provided:

1. agenda
2. draft minutes of meetings of October 19, 2010
3. draft of interim report to Town Meeting